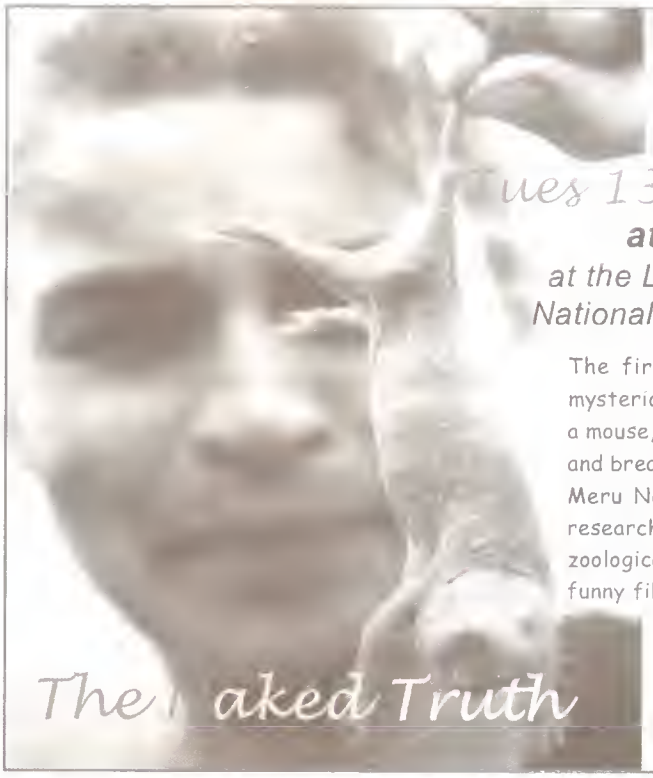
nature net

The **Nature***Kenya* Newsletter * www.naturekenya.org * June 06



Rosie and the Mole Rats

Tues 13 June '06

at 5:30 p.m.

at the Louis Leakey Hall, National Museums, Nairobi

The first documentary about this mysterious mammal. It is the size of a mouse, lives in colonies with a queen and breaks all the rules of nature. In Meru National Park a German field researcher follows the tracks of this zoological riddle in this unusual and funny film (50min.)

Presented by the film producer, Herbert Ostwald

Annual General Meeting

of Succulenta East Africa

Friday 23 - Sunday 25 June '06 at Nanyuki

Visit gardens and other plant localities in the Nanyuki area. The AGM will be on Sunday morning.

For more details please send for the Succulenta newsletter and call Sue Allan 0733 891721 or Julia Glen 0722 756647

Camping at Gatamaiyu Forest

Sat 10 - Sun 11 June '06

Enjoy a birdwatching and camping experience at one of the Kikuyu Escarpment Forests.

Organized by the Youth Committee, the cost of Ksh 600/- per person is inclusive of transport, camping fee and food. **Bring** tent, sleeping bag, plate, spoon and cup. Book at Nature Kenya by **Wednesday 7 June 06**. Meet at Museum car park at noon.

JUNE AT A GLIMPSE

Tue 6	FOCP Consultative meeting
Sat 10	Tree Walk
Sat 10-Sun 11	Camping at Gatamaiyu
Tues 13	Film on Mole Rats
Sun 18	Sunday Birdwalk
Fri 23-Sun 25	Succulenta AGM weekend & trip to Olorgesailie
Mon 26	Tree Walk

Birdwalks every Wednesday Morning

Editorial Team

Editor Catherine Ngarachu
Evening Skies Fleur Ng'weno
Naturalist's Corner Dino Martins

Mbweha Camp

Congreve Conservancy,

Lake Nakuru

For the special offer to Nature Kenya members call **Mbweha Camp offices** tel. 3877776 or 0722 782997
(Offer valid until 31 August 2006)

Camping at Olorgesailie Prehistoric site

Fri 23 - Sun 25 June '06

Organized by the Youth and Herpertofauna committees, activities include birdwatching, frogging and hiking up Mount Olorgesailie.

Cost at Ksh 1500/- per person includes transport, camping fees for two nights and food. Bring tent, sleeping bag, plate, spoon and cup. **Note:** optional Banda accommodation is available at an extra cost (subject to availability). Meet at Museum car park at noon. Book at the Nature Kenya office by **Monday 19 June 06**.

Direct Debit!

Pay subscriptions this way

To receive a Direct Debit authorizing form, please write to Nature Kenya or send a note to office@naturekenya.org

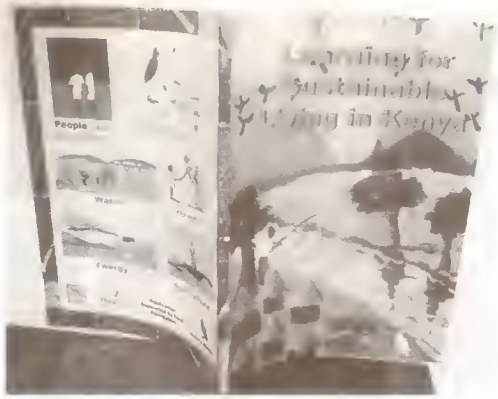
Discussion Forum

make your opinion known at www.naturekenya.org/forum

Do you have a comment or observation on anything you have read in Nature net? Then log on and put your thoughts on these pages.

Plan to register a friend or relative as a *member!*

NATURE KENYA, P. O. Box 44486, 00100 GPO Nairobi Tel: 3749957 / 3746090 Fax: 3741049 E-mail: office@naturekenya.org



action

Learning for Sustainable Living in Kenya

The book is finally out! The purpose of the book is to integrate knowledge on the sustainable use of natural resources in education for upper primary school learners in Kenya. This book will be distributed, free of charge, to all the primary schools in Kenya with the support of the Ministry of Education and the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA).

To mark this shift from the normal approaches of teaching environmental education, the Minister of Education and the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources will **launch** the book on **Wednesday 14 June** 2006 at the **Kenya Institute of Education**.

The process has involved the Kenya Institute of Education, the Ministry of Education, the National Environment Management Authority, Kenyatta University, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, other non governmental organisations in Kenya, teachers and students. We thank you all for your contribution!

Many thanks also go to FORD FOUNDATION whose financial support mode the production of this book possible.

Learning for Sustainable Living in Kenya is available from Nature Kenya for 700/-

Book launch

on Wednesday 14 June 2006 at the Kenya Institute of Education
If you wish to attend please contact Eric Deche at office@naturekenya.org

'THE CITY PARK WE WANT...'

Your invitation to a Friends of City Park Consultative Meeting

Do you remember City Park as safe, clean and beautiful; where you could walk, go for a picnic lunch or Sunday concert? Unlike in the past, the present situation at City Park is quite different - we are all affected and worried about security; the trees which form the indigenous forest are poached; facilities are stolen; pathways and drainage have disintegrated; plants are vandalised and encroachment is a reality.

We see the meeting as a way to share ideas about present problems, possible solutions and actions that will allow City Park to come to life once again. We are also looking for individuals who are inspired and have time to commit to work with the Friends to create 'the City Park we want'.

Tues 6 June '06

at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

at the Premier Club, SVP Hall

(Second entrance left on Forest Rd - drive to the end for ample parking)

Friends of City Park is a working committee of Nature Kenya

To confirm your participation please write to <office@naturekenya.org> or call George Petit at Nature Kenya

natural history

publications

available at the Nature Kenya membership and sales office

Kenya's Important Bird Areas STATUS AND TRENDS 2005 *Report*

A system of monitoring Important Bird Areas has been developed to assess the effectiveness of conservation measures and to detect emerging problems. The report is available from Nature Kenya @ 450/-

The Gratis book scheme

(or developing countries)

The British Ecological Society *BES* has joined forces with the NHBS (Natural History Book Service) Environment Bookstore and Blackwell Publishing, Cambridge University Press and Oxford University Press to provide free ecology and conservation books to those individuals or libraries outside Western Europe, North America, Australia, New Zealand and Japan who would otherwise be unable to afford them. The BES is kindly paying for the postage.

Following the generosity of the publishers, the following books are available:

The Conservation Handbook
William J. Sutherland. *Blackwell Publishing*

Ecology: From Individuals to Ecosystems
Michael Begon, John L Harper & Colin R Townsend. *Blackwell Publishing*

Wildlife Ecology, Conservation and Management
Anthony Sinclair, John Fryxell and Graeme Caughley. *Blackwell Publishing*

Bird Ecology and Conservation: A handbook of techniques
Edited by William J Sutherland, Ian Newton and Rhys E Green. *Oxford University Press*

Conservation Education and Outreach Techniques
Susan Jacobson, Mallory D McDuff and Martha C Monroe. *Oxford University Press*

Ecological Census Techniques
Edited by William J Sutherland. *Cambridge University Press*

These books can be ordered by completing the form available at the link on the bottom right of the NHBS home page (www.nhbs.com) and can be completed either for yourself, if eligible, or to recommend someone else.

EVENING SKY

Ian Mackay & Fleur Ng'weno

Moon, June 2006

4th *First Quarter;* 11th *Full Maan;* 18th *Last Quarter;* 25th *New Moon*

Stars

The constellotion Scorpius, the scarpion, is prominent in the sautheast. On June 10th the moon is seen right inside this constellation. The Plough, a constellotion olso colled the Big Dipper or the Greot Beor, is high in the north. The Southern Cross con still be seen low over the sauth.

Planets

Bright golden Jupiter is in the eost (opposite the sunset) on June evenings. It is just north of the moon on June 8th.

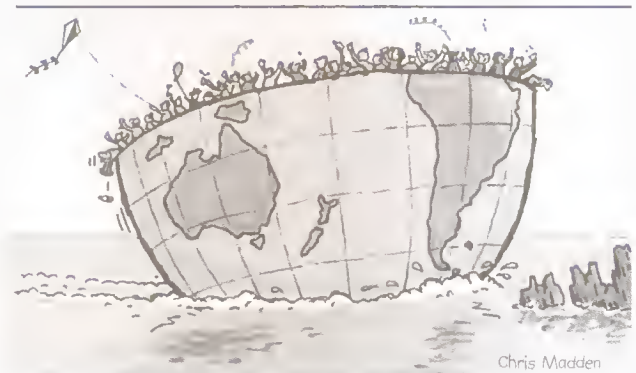
Soturn looks like o bright stor in the western sky; but it does not sporkle like a stor. The plonets, like the Earth, trovel in orbits oround the sun, ond reflect the sun's light. They seem to wonder omong the stors. Soturn is neor the Beehive stor cluster ot the end of June; look a little south of the moon on the 28th to find it.

Mors oppeors to be neor Soturn, but it is nat as bright. It seems to enter the Beehive (M44 star cluster) oround June 14th, ond stoys inside for some 3 doys, ofter which it will stoy o little obove for the rest of the month. Mors is just narth af Soturn on June 18th ond just south of the moon on the 28th.

The tiny planet Mercury is visible in the evening sky for the whale month. The stor Pollux (in the constellotion Gemini) is just to the north of Mercury on June 19th. Mercury is found close to the moon on the 27th, not for from the brighter plonets Saturn or Mors (see mop).

Late in the manth, the moan and three plonets moy be seen inside the constellatian of Concer, the crob.

Before down, bright Venus is now lower in the morning twilight. Venus will oppeor claser ta the horizon as this month gaes by, ond sinks into the down in August. Venus will then poss between the Eorth ond the sun, ond emerge in the evening sky in December.



THE SHIP OF FOOLS AND THE ROCKS OF SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC PLANNING

For more Chris Madden cartoons buy his book "The Beast that ate the Earth" from his website www.chrismadden.org

CLASSIFIEDS

Reach over 1000 members by advertising in Nature Net Rates for Classifieds: • Up to 25 words 250/- • Up to 50 words 500/- Ads • @ 1750/- • with image +500/-

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reforest@africaonline.co.ke
BRIAN WILLIAMS 0733 923990
bvwilliams@swiftkenya.com
CAROLE HEMMINGS 0733 747865
carole@access350.co.ke

Increase Biodiversity Within Your Garden

Grow Indigenous Plants and Trees

Over 100 species of plants and trees (& Roses) are available at the Athi Nursery. A list with names and prices can be supplied *Contact* Celia Hardy 0722 523023
celia@rosesgalore.co.ke
Or Barry Cameron 0722 749596
barry@rosesgalore.co.ke

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Up & about

DECLARATION

Noture Kenyo does not occept any responsibility whotsoever in respect of negligence of any of its staff, volunteers or members organising the outings/trips or for ony loss, injury, death or damage to property.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIRDWALKS

Bird watching walks at sites in and around Nairobi. Meet at the National Museum car park every Wednesday at 8:45 a.m. Return about 12:30 p.m. *Those who ore not members con get temporary membership at Ksh 100 per birdwalk, payoble on arrivol ot the cor park.*

TREE WALKS

Guided tree walks in the Arboretum on the second Saturday and last Monday, i.e. **10** and **26 June '06** from 9:30 a.m. Meet at the Arboretum gate. *Those who ore not members of FONA or Nature Kenya pay Ksh 100/- fee on orrivol at the gate.*

· SUNDAY BIRDWATCH

Members meet at the National Museum, Nairobi car park at 9:00 a.m. the third Sunday of every month, **i.e. 18 June '06.** The members decide where to go. Bring lunch

BIRD RINGING

Ringing at the Museums' Nairobi Botanic Garden, has **ceased** while construction is ongoing.

SAMAKI DAYS *New!!

Guided fish excursions on the first Thursday, i.e. **1 June '06** from 9:00 a.m - 12:30 p.m. Meet at the Nairobi Museum car park. *Pay Ksh 50/- per person on arrivol*

KINANGOP GUEST HOUSE

Perched on the Kinangop Plateau with incredible views across the Rift Valley, the farm combines tussock-grass pasture, indigenous forest, and attractive gardens. The guesthouse is comfortable and fully furnished. Visitors can enjoy hikes and walks on the farm or go further afield with local guides.

For more information, brochure and non-member rates please contact Nature Kenya. Guest House rates: Day visit 350/-

MEMBER nos	Overnight	Weekend
1 to 2 pax	4000/-	6500/-
3 pax	4,900/-	7,400/-
4 pax	5,800/-	8,300/-

20% OFF ACCOMMODATION AT THE DRIFTWOOD

On presentation of your membership card, you can get this discount off accommodation (if paying by cash or cheque) at the Driftwood Beachclub. This is a charming beachfront property with great food and service. Contact: <gm@driftwoodclub.com or tel 042 20155

Ngong Road Forest Walks

Ngong Road Forest Sanctuary Trust nature walks held the first and third Saturdays of the month i e. **3 & 17 June '06, at 9:00 a.m.** Meet at the stairs leading to the Restaurant at the Racecourse. Call Anthony Chalo to confirm on 575207 or 0733 712406.

Lake Victoria Sunset Birders (Kisumu)

The Lake Victoria Sunset Birders organise bird walks at sites in and around Kisumu every Friday of the month. For further details call 057 42952 or 0734 994938 or email lakevictoriasunsetbirders@yahoo.co.uk

Mt Kenya Biodiversity Conservation Group (MKBCG)

The MKBCG organise bird walks to sites around Naro Moru every last Saturday of the month i.e. **24 June '06.**
For more information contact 0722 364904, 0733 937115 or 062 62071 Email: mt_kebio@yahoo.co.uk_

Birding at Kinangop

Friends of Kinangop Plateau organise birdwalks every third Friday of the month i.e. **16 June '06** at 9:00 a.m around Magumu and Njambini areas. To participate contact Bakari Ng'ang'a on 0721 470215

MARURA NAROK BIRDWATCHERS

A community group near Uaso Narok Swamp, Rumuruti, which organises birdwalks every last Saturday i.e. **24 June '06**. Call 062 32718 or email olmaisor@africaonline.co.ke

ARABUKO-SOKOKE (COAST)

The Saturday birdwatch with the Arabuko Sokoke Forest Guides Association is on the first Saturday of each month i.e. **3 June '06, at 6:30 a.m.** from the Visitor Centre, Gede. Cost 100/- per person. KWS fees now apply (100/- Citizens, 500/- Residents)

FFJ Bird Walk (Coast)

Friends of Fort Jesus birdwalks are held the third Saturday of each month, i.e. **17 June '06.**Please call Marlene Reid on (041) 491 648 to confirm

NatureKenya

Yes! *Start* *Renew*

my Nature Kenya membership

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First Name Ms/Mr/Title

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(**OPTIONAL** - but useful to us in planning)

Occupation

Age Bracket (tick) under 21( ) 21-35( ) 36-50( ) over 50( )

Country of Origin

Would you like us to share your contacts Yes/ NO

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Kenya Birds **(tick to receive this free Bird magazine)**		
Journal of E.A. Natural History	1000	
Scopus (Ornithological Journal)	500	
World Birdwatch (the BirdLife International magazine)	1500	
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African Bird Club (Student 500/-)	800	
DONATE & ***Help us to do even more!*** 5000/Other		
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